Approved For Release 2004/03/22 : CIA-RDPDIM00696R000700140003-2

D/OCI-1449-75

29 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Nitpicking the Taylor Report

1. It is difficult to comment on something as weighty as the Taylor Report after one hasty reading and without an opportunity to turn back the pages for some reflective study. Even so, I do have a couple of reactions:

- a. As I recall, the suggestion was made early on that in time of war* the new DCI report through the SecDef, that the military control of intelligence would be dominant. Under the formula for a DGI this is left ambiguous. It seems to me that in time of war, just as much as in time of nonwar and perhaps even more so, the President needs a strong independent and non-departmental intelligence evaluator reporting to him directly. There is no certainty that military-controlled intelligence will be able to come up with more objective assesments simply because a war is on (Lincoln had McClellan, Truman had MacArthur, etc.)
- b. The paper slides over something which I think helps to create barriers between CIA and military intelligence: a growing lack of military experience and comprehension within an increasingly civilian CIA.
- c. The paper acknowledges, but only in the Appendices, the existence of non-military, non-diplomatic, non-spook collection. However, the paper ducked discussing the guidance of the collection of information on foreign states and their

^{*}Question: What is a war?

Approved For Release 2004/03/22 301A-RDE91M00696R000700140003-2

national available to primarily domestic and private agencies (e.g., Justice, Commerce, Treasury, etc.). The emphasis was heavily skewed toward the complex, highly centralized systems as opposed to any consideration of the universal flow of information per se. I did not see any new tools proposed for use should any of these systems go away.

Chief, Methods & Technology Staff

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